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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/566,731	09/19/2006	Tenryu Misawa	0925-0229PUS1	9224
2292 7590 12/29/2009 BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH PO BOX 747 FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747				
EXAMINER				
MCADAMS, BRAD				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2456				
NOTIFICATION DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
12/29/2009		ELECTRONIC		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

mailroom@bskb.com

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/566,731

Applicant(s)

MISAWA ET AL.

Examiner

ROBERT B. MCADAMS

Art Unit

2456

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 September 2009.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 24-34 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 24-34 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/22)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 10/06/2009
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is in response to the amendment filed on September 24, 2009.
2. Claims 24-34 are pending.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to Claims 24-34 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. **Claims 24-34** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by

Prifling (U.S. PGPub No. 2004/0153765).

As to **Claims 24, 31 and 32**, *Prifiling* discloses a network connection system, connecting an image information apparatus to a network (**Figure 2**), comprising:

a first communication device (**File Processing Device 110, Figure 2**), communicatively connected to the network (**Network 108, Figure 2**), for communicating with an apparatus (**File Server 216, Figure 2**) connected to the network,

a second communication device (**Data Conversion Device 106, Figure 2**), communicatively connected to a host interface (**IDE controller 208, Figure 2**) of the image information apparatus (**Data Processing Device 102, Figure 2**), for communicating with the image information apparatus, and

a processing unit programmed to convert a data writing instruction outputted from the image information apparatus and received via the second communication device into a command for a file sharing protocol of the network to be transmitted via the first communication device to the apparatus connected to the network (**The writing data sent from the data processing device 102 are transmitted via the IDE interface of the data conversion device 104 and converted there into writing Ethernet data according to the SMB protocol 218 under the network protocol TCP/IP 220. The writing data is passed on via the Ethernet interface 226 of the data conversion device 106 to the network 108 in the form of Ethernet packets. Figure 4; Paragraphs 0025 and 0034**).

As to **Claim 25**, *Prifiling* further discloses wherein the data writing instruction is an instruction for writing data to a physical sector of a recorder locally connected to the image information apparatus **(Data is written to the interface as if a recorder were locally connected. Paragraph 0024)**.

As to **Claim 26**, *Prifiling* further discloses wherein the conversion of the data writing instruction into the file sharing protocol command includes either a command to create a new file to be shared or a command to open an existing file to be shared **(Paragraph 0025)**.

As to **Claim 27**, *Prifiling* further discloses wherein the name of a file to be shared is a name corresponding to LBA **(A File Allocation Table is used to correspond file names to Logical Block Addresses. Paragraph 0024)**.

As to **Claim 28**, *Prifiling* further discloses wherein a data reading instruction outputted from the image information apparatus is converted into a protocol for reading data from a file to be shared in the network **(Figure 3; Paragraph 0033)**.

As to **Claim 29**, *Prifiling* further discloses wherein the data reading instruction is an instruction for reading data from a physical sector of a recorder locally connected to the image information apparatus **(Data is read from the interface as if a recorder were locally connected. Paragraph 0024)**.

As to **Claim 30**, *Prifiling* further discloses wherein the second communication device is connected to the image information apparatus through the network, and communicates with the image information apparatus through the network (**Figure 2; Paragraph 0025**).

As to **Claim 33**, *Prifiling* further discloses wherein the host interface is a storage host interface (**IDE Controller 208**), and the second communication device emulates a device controller for an external storage device (**Paragraphs 0024-0025**).

As to **Claim 34**, *Prifiling* further discloses wherein the host interface is an ATA host interface (**IDE Controller 208; Paragraph 0021**), and the second communication device includes an ATA controller and an ATA emulator (**IDE Interface 104 and IDE Modulator 228, Figure 2**).

Conclusion

6. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ROBERT B. MCADAMS whose telephone number is (571)270-3309. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 6:30am-5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bunjob Jaroenchonwanit can be reached on 571-272-3913. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/R. B. M./
Examiner, Art Unit 2456

/Bunjod Jaroenchonwanit/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2456